7/14/69

Dear Mac,

I think we know each other well enough for me not to hide my dismay that the new administration is no less the practitioner of the fascist-like abuses of its predecessor. I now have official confirmation of the fact that the Secret Service memo of transfer of the autopsy pictures and X-rays is at the Archives. This makes everything that has been done of deliberate dishonesty. My last letter is still unacknowledged. In fact, it is two months since I asked for certain charges I advanced for an associate and charged to my account, and they have ignored repeated requests for even this simple thing. You never get a bill from them. You merely given them money and when you run out they stop filling orders until you renew the account. I have never asked for a bill in all these years, nor has an accounting ever been volunteered. Which is one way of running a government agency.

Enclosed is a copy of the indignant letter I have written Dr. Rhoads.

It is not short of completely outrageous that government can so conduct itself. These people are not naturally dishonest. They do not do those things that can be no better than a blot upon them without someone demanding it.

The Department of Justice has on every occasion failed to respond to my requests, including the knowledge and documents required for use of the Freedom of Information Act. It makes no difference what administration is in power, you boys are just a bunch of bums to them. Pass laws as you will; those uncongenial to the devious purposes of the bureaucrats will be ignored.

Now it happens that with regard to this autopsy material, the record is much worse than I have sent you. I asked for all of it in the spring of 1966. I was not given all of it. Tediously, I have dug more out. When they leaked the Kennedy-family contract to the New York Times, secure in the knowledge the uninformed reporter would misuse it and kill the story, they never made proper response to my inquiries, not to this day. When they did the same thing with the Commission executive sessions, all over again, the same. Now I have proof that this papers I have sought since January, when its official existence was disclosed by the Clark "Panel Report", has been in the Archives all along and merely suppressed because a citizen does not have the power to make them obey the laws. However, it falls within the description of what I asked for in 1966!

Nothing remains but the trappings of freedom.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg